

REMARKS

In the Official Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1-10 and rejected claims 11, 12 and 14-20. The Examiner only objected to dependent claim 13 and indicated that such claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

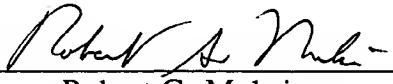
Although applicants do not agree with the Examiner's interpretation of the claim language, the subject matter of claim 13 has been incorporated into claim 11 with claim 13 being accordingly canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Since this amendment to the claims overcomes the single rejection set forth in the Official Action, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

As a final matter, applicants note that Information Disclosure Statements were filed on February 27, 2004, and May 6, 2004. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the contents of these Statements and return acknowledged citation forms with the next Action.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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